



Governor's Forest Health Oversight Council Meeting
August 21, 2003 – 1:30 PM
Show Low City Hall – City Council Chambers

MINUTES

Council Members in attendance:

Todd Schulke (for Brian Nowicki)– Ctr. for Bio.D iversity
Kirk Rowdabaugh – Land Department
Steve Campbell –U of A
Hon. Tom O'Halleran – House of Reps.
Diane Vosick – Ecological Research Institute
Rob Smith – Sierra Club
Don Foster – Apache County
Beth Zimmerman – Dept. of Emergency Mgmt.

Alexious C. Becenti. Sr. - Navajo Forestry
Ron Christensen – Gila Cnty Supervisor
Hon. Joe Donaldson – Mayor, Flagstaff
Dr. Richard Collision - Prescott
Mike Sommerville – Natural Resource
Conservation Service
Michael Neal

Members of Public in attendance

Ken Iverson, Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission
Lew Levenson, AZ Partnership for Forest
Steve Gatewood, GFFP
Karl Morson
Jan Mathis, U of A Cooperative Extension
Nick Matiella, Senator John McCain's Office

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:38 PM by Co-Chair Vosick

Introduction of new member

Don Foster, Apache County

Discussion and Action

Approval of July 30th Minutes motion to approve the minutes and council unanimously approved.

Subcommittee Reports: Zoning ordinances and regulations will soon be available for committee review.

Summary of Guiding Principles by Taylor McKinnon

Presentation by Jack Cohen, USDA Forest Service Research Physicist . A video is available of the presentation. A copy of the powerpoint presentation will be used for educational outreach. Please notify Corey Cox if you would like a copy of the CD.

Council Action Goals. Handout available: Governor's Forest Health and Safety Action Plan. Please review and email suggestions to Diane Vosick, Rep. O'Halleran and Corey Cox.

Database Update given by Rep. O'Halleran. Documentation in reference to database will sent to the Council by Corey Cox.

Market Analysis of forest products - Karl Siderits. First, the market situation is very poor. Second, a 40M investment in Savannah-Pacific saw mill for small diameter trees and bio-mass operation should be operational by February. However, there are no building plans at this time. Third, bio-mass in Mt. Rainer is utilizing three hundred pounds of waste. Demand could reach into Arizona (involving the Forest Service). This would require about 150, 000 acres of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest for supply of wood products at 5-10 year contract. The process involves two phases: the removal of trees and supply of merchantable trees. A request was made by Diane Vosick to clarify how much timber and utilization will be needed in terms of

standard units (demonstrated with graphs and charts). Rep. O'Halleran questioned what the time frame is and are there contract funds for urban interface? Where is the plan, surveys, and analysis?

Announcements and Public Comments

Forest Health Website will be designed for access to all information related to Forest Health (meeting schedule, minutes, media contacts, comments, etc.) A suggestion was made to include brief biographies of each member. Please forward any links or comments to Heather Garbarino.

FEMA has grants available for pre-disaster mitigation activities. Handout: Overview of the proposed pre-disaster mitigation competitive grant program. Please contact Barbara Corsette (602) 392-7518.

Arizona Firewise Communities Firewise and other wildfire related educational workshops are available. For information, please visit:
<http://cals.arizona.edu/firewise/workshops.html>

Future Agenda Items and Meeting Dates

Joe Donaldson mentioned that he would like to see our State Statutes as they relate to the Wildland Urban Interface discussed.

Mike Somerville added that this should include a discussion on what could be done to correct some of the existing deficiencies. What authorities exist and what is needed?

Diane Vosick would like to request a future presentation by the Attorney General's office to summarize.

Call to the public – no comments

Future meeting dates - October 2, 2003 – Tucson
November -TBD.

Prioritization - Please forward any issues to Kirk Rowdabaugh.

Adjournment

Hearing no other business, motion to dismiss by Rep. O'Halleran, seconded by Steve Campbell. Passed unanimously by the council. Meeting was adjourned at 3:54.